STRATE CALLED BY GRAND JURY

TP 9/22/67

Subpenaed to Appear Before U.S. Body

Zachary "Red" Strate, New Orleans builder who was convicted of conspiracy and fraud along with Teamster Union President James R. Hoffa, has been subpenaed along with three other men to appear before the federal grand jury here Tuesday.

Others called by the Justice Department are Julian M. Levy, court reporter for Criminal District Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara; Edward M. Baldwin, New Orleans attorney who was Judge O'Hara's campaign manager in 1965 when the judge made an unsuccessful race for district attorney against incumbent Jim Garrison; and Pershing Gervais, former chief investigator for Garrison who is now associated with Strate in business.

BRIBE PROBE

The grand jury will reopen its investigation of charges that certain persons have attempted to bribe Edward G. Partin, Baton Rouge Teamster officer, to change his testimony which was instrumental in sending Hoffa to the penitentiary on jury tampering charges.

At a federal court hearing several weeks ago in Chicago Judge O'Hara testified that he had been a "messenger" in an attempt to get Partin to sign an affidavit that illegal wire-tapping evidence had been used to convict Hoffa in the fraud and conspiracy case which is now on appeal.

The judge testified during the hearing that the affidavit was dictated to Levy.

During the same hearing. Judge O'Hara testified that on June 5, 1967, Baldwin called him and told him that Walter Sheridan, a former Justice Department investigator, was doing a "White Paper" for the National Broadcasting Company on Garrison's probe of the Kennedy assassination.

The judge testified that Baldwin initiated plans for a meeting between Strate and Sheridan. Strate testified that Sheridan offered help in Chicago if he, Strate, would help discredit Garrison's investigation.

DUO SUBPENAED

Baldwin and Gervais were subpenaed for the Chicago hearing but were not called to testify.

The hearing had been ordered by the United States Supreme Court to determine if illegal evidence had been used in the Hoffa trial. Judge Richard B. Austin held that there was no such evidence used.